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REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF PORT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATIONS IN AFRICA,

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 14-16 OCTOBER 1985

A. Attendance and organization of work

1. Following the request made earlier, jointly by the Secretary-General of Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) and the Chairman of Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern African and in accordance with Article 6 of the constitution of Port Management Associations, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) organized the Second Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Management Associations in Africa which was held at the ECA headquarters, from 14 to 16 October 1985. Mr. Rutaiwa chaired the meeting.

2. The following were represented at the meeting: Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Port Management Associations of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) and Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA). North African Port Management Association was not represented

B. Account of proceedings

3. On behalf of Mr. M. Bongoy, Chief, Transport, Communications and Tourism Division, the meeting was opened by Mr. F. Rutaiwa, Chief, Transport and Tourism Section of the Division.

4. In his opening address, Mr. Rutaiwa emphasized on the role of African ports in the socio-economic development of Africa. He outlined the importance of the three ECA-sponsored Port Management Association in existance in the socio-economic development as a whole and in facilitating sea-borne trade of African countries in particular. Member ports of these Associations, he said, should equip themselves to meet future foreign trade traffic demands of African countries. He urged, utmost co-operation in every way possible.

5. Representatives of PMAESA and PMAWCA presented separate papers on their roles and activities as subregional organizations. They also highlighted their problems they are facing be it administrative, project implementation, finance, etc.

C. Adoption of the Agenda

6. The agenda proposed by ECA was adopted after combinations of items of similar natures were made.

D. Organization of work

7. It was agreed to meet from:

Morning - 9.00 A.M. to 1.00

Afternoon - 3.00 P.M. to 11.30 P.M.

E. Consideration of agenda items

Note: Agenda items 1 and 2 dealt with opening of the meeting and reports by Association Representatives and they were first tackled.

8. Agenda item 3 - The role of ECA in development of Maritime ports in Africa and Implementation of United Nations Transport and Communications Decade Projects (UNTACDA) in the field of Ports. ECA secretariat introduced this agenda item. It was made clear to the delegates that ECA has port development programme for the entire region through the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa. ECA also briefed the delegates that two Technical Consultative Meetings with Donors were so far conducted in 1982 for West and Central African Maritime States in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) and another one in 1984 in Antananarivo (Madagascar) for North, Eastern and Southern African Maritime States.

9. It was noted that ECA presented reports on port projects of members of NAPMA and PMAWCA during their respective annual council meetings that took place in January and April 1985. Similar preparation is underway for members of PMAESA to be presented during its forth annual council meeting scheduled for January 1986.

10. The meeting also noted that members of Port Authorities of all the three Port Management Associations are currently implementing national as well as subregional port projects in their respective ports or subregions in view of doing their part to fulfill their commitments in port developments.

11. The reflection of the PMAWCA on this agenda item was read out and noted.

12. Exchange of views among participants led to the following conclusions:

(a) ECA must never relent in its efforts to draw the attention of the African Governments concerned to the role of Port Management Associations;

(b) ECA should play active role in actual planning and development of African ports by giving guidelines and general information to African Governments in respect of policies in the field of ports, ECA should seek advise from Port Management Associations as the latter have more information on the actual situation and developments in the field of ports;

(c) ECA should seek ways and means to mobilize resources for funding of UNTACDA port projects.

13. Agenda item 4 - Harmonization and Co-ordination of Activities Between Port Management Associations and ECA, Exchange of Information and Establishment of Firm Communications. A member of the Secretariat introduced this agenda item. The following proposals were made by ECA regarding this agenda item.

14. Meetings of Port Management Associations and ECA should be convened annually beginning from the year 1986. It is advisable to decide here on when it is most convenient to have such meetings taking into consideration work schedule of all parties concerned. It may be suggested that such meetings be held in Addis Ababa. As a permanent element of the agenda, the following issues could be proposed for discussions:

(i) problems of associations in carrying out their work and assistance required;

(ii) work programme of each Association and that of ECA should be made available for comments;

(iii) current activities of each Association;

(iv) co-operation among Associations, with ECA and other organizations and agencies;

(v) implementation of UNDP/ECA Projects in the field of ports;

(vi) activities of ECA in the field of shipping and ports.

15. Additional proposals to the agenda should be submitted to ECA at least six weeks prior to the meeting.

16. If deems necessary, other organizations and agencies could be invited to participate in meetings.

17. To improve flow of information ECA and Port Management Associations should continue exchange of studies, report and other documents and informations that may be of interest to them.

18. ECA should well in advance inform Port Management Associations of the seminars, symposium, workshops, etc. to be organized by ECA on shipping and ports and draft programmes of such meetings should be submitted to Port Management for comments and proposals.

19. ECA should be regularly represented at annual council meetings of Port Management Associations, in annual meetings of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored organizations and other meetings if deems necessary. Invitation letters containing programme of the meeting should be issued well in advance by the party responsible for organization of such a meeting.

20. The following decisions were reached upon:

(a) Above-mentioned proposals made by ECA are welcomed and accepted;

(b) Both ECA and PMAESA should take special effort to implement these and other suggestions previously made on similar cases.

F. Agenda item 5 - Co-ordination with Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping (ISCOS), Ministerial Conference of West and Central African States on Shipping (MINCOMAR). A staff member of the secretariat introduced this agenda item

and briefed that ECA mounted joint ECA/ISCOS/PMAESA mission in August this year to study fields of co-operation between ISCOS and PMAESA by proposing three alternatives, namely:

(i) whether the ISCOS and PMAESA can afford to maintain their two separate identities;

(ii) whether the two organizations should remain independent but share certain facilities such as offices, secretarial services, administrative services, transport, etc.; and

(iii) whether the two organizations should completely merge into one organization.

21. Regarding the role of MINCOMAR and the relationship that exists between MINCOMAR and PMAWCA, the representative of PMAWCA briefed the meeting.

22. After a lengthy discussion, the meeting reached the following conclusions:

(i) that the study on co-operation between ISCOS and PMAESA continue as envisaged and the outcome be presented to the concerned organizations for considerations. It was suggested that the study be given careful consideration, taken into account legal implications and different status on the two organizations;

(ii) that the Second Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Management Associations noted and appreciated the relationship that exists between MINCOMAR and PMAWCA.

G. Agenda item 6 - Meeting of Chief Executives of ECA-sponsored Organizations. The Secretariat informed the meeting of the report on Port Management Associations by the Ad Hoc Committee established by Resolution 477 (XVIII) on ECA/OAU-sponsored institutions. The task of the Ad Hoc Committee was to evaluate the multinational institutions created under the aegies of ECA and OAU and to make suggestions and recommendations of how useful they are and how their activities could be better co-ordinated.

The recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee concerning Port Management Associations, which was adopted by the 11th Conference of African Ministers, was fully supported by the meeting. The recommendation was the Port Management Associations for Eastern and Southern Africa, North Africa and West and Central Africa must each have the full support of their member States and in particular their respective host government if they are to continue to develop. These associations do not, like other multinational institutions, lend themselves to being taken over by a member State even if they are willing to operate them as multinational institutions. If financial support for them ceases, the alternative would be their merger as it feels that the problems of port management are best tackled not by one association for the entire continent but by various associations for segments of the continent which have similar problems and shipping traditions.

23. As the Ad Hoc Committee stated in its first report, ECA should continue to provide secretariat and technical services to the Port Management Association for Eastern and Southern Africa.

H. Agenda Item 7 - Training Problems and Possibility of Training in Africa.

This agenda item was introduced by the secretariat and training including establishment and/or strengthening training centres highlighted. Information was also provided on Manpower and Training needs Survey in ports in Africa carried out very recently by ECA. It was further said that the study is a draft form. The final report will be made available sometimes early 1986. Information was also given on the preparation of Training Programme Handbook for Dock workers and supervisors in African Ports by ECA. The Training Programme, both in French and English, were sent to all Port Authorities in Africa. Copies were distributed for the participants.

24. After some discussions were held, the following conclusions were made :

- The meeting noted that training situation in the field of ports is always critical in Africa and to meet the objectives of training in African ports Governments, Port Authority Institutions, Inter-governmental Organizations etc. should properly plan and identify their training requirements and allocate proper fund for carrying out their training objectives. The Manpower and Training Survey of Ports of Africa was most welcome.

- It was recommended that training of low level port personnel be organized by Port Authorities and ECA was called upon to provide technical assistance for this kind of training. The Training Programme Handbook for Dock workers and supervisors in African ports which was prepared by ECA and which was made available to all Port Authorities in Africa was supported and encouraged. Congratulations and encouragement was given to PAWECAS for its recent establishment of low level training programme in Cotonou (Bénin) and Banjul (Gambia) for port personnel of ports of West and Central Africa with the financial assistance from the Dutch Government.

- It was recommended that training of middle and senior port personnel as well as training of the trainers be organized at subregional/regional levels and once more ECA was called upon to help in this respect also.

- Recommendations was made to ECA to identify training areas and priorities in the field of ports in consultation with Port Management Associations and also try to mobilize resources to implement them.

I. Agenda item 8 - Effect of Modern Technology and Port Industry and Preparation of African Ports to Cope with Such Technological Changes in Ports

25. The subject was introduced by a staff of the Secretariat and a lengthy discussion went on the subject. The following conclusions were reached :

(i) It was recommended that ECA consider possibility to develop general recommendations on how Port Authorities in Africa could cooperate each other in sharing experiences, know-how of modern technology in ports and the implementation of it.

(ii) ECA was requested to conduct a survey of methods and approaches of follow-up in how implementation of modern technology be applied by African Port Authorities.

(iii) ECA should promote awareness of importance of the concerned actions to cope with modern technology in ports as well as other related sectors of transportation chain.

(iv) The study currently being carried out by ECA on Harmonization and Co-ordination of Various Transport Modes in Africa was appreciated and the meeting made note that the aspect of modern technology should be considered in the study.

J. Agenda item 9 - Assistances to be provided to Land-locked Countries that Use Ports of Transit Countries - Verbal briefing was given by the Secretariat on this agenda item and after some discussions the following conclusions were made:

(i) Transit countries are urged to intensify their assistances to land-locked countries to facilitate sea-borne trade of land-locked countries through their ports. Transit activities are mutual and beneficial exercise profitable for all parties concerned.

(ii) Transport corridors defined by ECA were noted. ECA, in determining those ports which fall in these corridors, was requested to consult Port Management Associations.

(iii) Land-locked countries should be encouraged to be members of Port Management Associations.

(iv) The meeting noted that it would be difficult to lay down common code of conduct of how land-locked countries in Africa be assisted by Transit countries. Accordingly, it was recommended that matters should be left between those Transit countries and land-locked ones to arrange things bilaterally.

K. Agenda item 10 - Any other business - Port Operations Seminar in Odessa, 1986 - The three Port Management Associations were requested to respond immediately to the ECA letter regarding selections of Topics of the Seminar. There were also urged to attend the Seminar in which so far PMAWC was only represented.

26. ECA noted the suggestion put forward from the floor that the selection of the lecturers be done carefully also.

27. PMAWC's Requests - During the meeting, the requests made by PMAWC to ECA:

a) To compile a list of Experts available in Africa in the fields of ports and

b) the carrying out of a pre-feasibility study on computerization of ports of the West and Central African subregion,

were accepted.

L. Resolutions

28. PTA/ECA and PALESA jointly recommended the following two resolutions in line with the recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee established by resolution 477 (XVIII) on ECA/OAU sponsored institutions which was adopted by the 11th meeting of the Conference of African Ministers in Addis Ababa in 1985. The recommendations of the Resolutions were also made in view of what has been agreed upon earlier in the report to support the report of the Ad-Hoc Committee and the adoption of the meeting of the Conference of African Ministers. Resolution 1 and 2 are in-corporated here below. These resolutions were adopted :

Resolution No. 1

Resolution requesting Economic Commission for Africa to regularly (yearly) convene Chief Executives Meeting of Port Management Associations

The 2nd Chief Executive Meeting of Port Management Associations held from 14 to 15 October 1986 at the ECA Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia ;

Considering the importance of the exchange of views by the Chief Executives of Port Management Associations among themselves on ports development in Africa;

Also recognizing that ECA can play bigger role in harmonizing activities of Port Management Association if such annual meetings are held;

Noting with satisfaction that such meetings held so far have provided the right forum for discussion and exchange of ideas among Port Management Associations;

Calls upon ECA to convene annually Chief Executives Meetings of Port Management Associations at the ECA Headquarters;

Also calls upon ECA to organize symposium and/or seminars on Ports Development in Africa for members of Port Management Associations to give wider opportunity to discuss future requirements of ports activities in view of technological advancement in maritime transport as a whole.

Resolution No. 2

Resolution requesting Economic Commission for Africa to continue carry-out the activities of the secretariat of Port Management Associations of Eastern and Southern Africa

Recognizing the assistances provides so far by the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division of the Economic Commission for Africa to the Port Management Associations of Eastern and Southern Africa in carrying the secretariat work of the said Association;

Having taken note of the recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee established by Resolution 477 (XVIII) on ECA/OAU sponsored Institutions to the twentieth Session of the Commission/eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers that ECA should continue to provide secretariat and technical services to the Port Management Associations for Eastern and Southern Africa and which was approved by the above mentioned meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA that ECA continue in carrying-out the work of the Secretariat of the Association for a year or two until the Association manages to convince one of its members to host the permanent secretariat of the Association.

The meeting adjourned in 16/10/85 at 5.30 p.m.